

THEY CAUGHT ONE MOUSE.

One Trap Which an Expert Did not Have to Buy.

"Did you ever buy a mouse-trap?" pensively inquired a man on a Sixth avenue elevated train the other morning of the friend who sat next to him.

"I never did," said the other, looking up from his newspaper in some surprise, "did you?"

"I have, indeed. I am a mouse-trap expert. You see the mice in our flat have been pretty bad. They grew so tame that I've seen them run across the parlor when three or four people were in the room, and at night one nibbling and patting because of the constant state that we could scarcely sleep. We kept a pile of slippers and shoes by the side of the bed, and while the ammunition held out there was a constant fusillade. About two weeks ago I grew so sick of 'mouse, mouse,' as the unending domestic topic, that I said to my wife: 'See here, this mouse business must stop. I'll buy a trap. I did. I came home with a trap, and with one of those round red snap traps, and on the way up from the elevated station I invested in a big slice of fine fresh cheese. Well, we set the trap for four nights, and caught not one mouse. I thought perhaps it worked hard so I oiled up the wires. No success. I then bought a square trap with two holes and another with four, thus giving us a total of eleven mice capacity, but all in vain. The next day I went over in Vevey street and looked into the mouse-trap business.

"Can you give me any points on mouse traps," I said to the proprietor of a store over there. 'I know a thing or two about snap traps but I am looking for a trap that will appeal to an educated, intelligent mouse.'

"The dealer looked a little surprised. 'Have you children?' he said. I admitted a little girl.

"Then here," he said, 'is the squirrel cage trap. It always pleases the children. The mouse goes in here, the trap closes automatically, and he is caught. He then runs out into this wheel, and by running turns it. It is a very amusing device.' I said we were not looking for amusement, but we would like to catch a mouse or two, so I added that trap to the collection, and also another with wire wings. I forgot that when the trap was set, but clapped together by monkeying with the bait. I now had five traps, and that evening, just before retiring, I smoked up a big piece of cheese, baited every trap, and in the room in the morning I awoke feeling very faint. We always keep a cracker or two in our bedroom, and I determined to get up quickly and obtain one. I forgot that wing trap. A moment later my wife was sitting up in a cold perspiration.

"William," she whispered, 'is the house afire?'

"Worse than that."

"Heavens and earth," she said, getting ready to scream.

"Keep quiet," I snapped, "my big toe is caught in the new wing trap."

"When she calmed down she kindly told me that my language had revealed depths of depravity in my nature that made her shudder. I finally separated that mouse trap from my person and crept back to bed, smelling like a Welsh rabbit. The next night I made one more attempt with those traps. I concluded the cheese was too mild. So I came home that evening with a slab of German cheese. I never had so much room in an elevated train before. The crowd fell over each other to give me a seat. I could have led that cheese by a string. We went to bed that night with cologne on our pillows and every window open, but all the traps were baited, and I said to my wife, 'it's now or never.'"

The narrator paused here, and pensively read the advertisements on the opposite side of the ear.

"Well, did you catch a mouse?" demanded his friend, with much interest.

"Yes, we caught a mouse."

"Which trap?"

"No trap at all. He fell into the bath tub."—N. Y. Tribune.

RENOVATING FEATHERS.

The Way to Prepare Material for a Soft and Fluffy Pillow.

Almost everyone has pillows or cushions in which are feathers that seriously need attention. One of the best ways to do this, if one is far from a renovating establishment, is to empty the feathers into a wash-boiler of strong suds with half a cup of washing-soda dissolved in it. Let the feathers boil for two or three hours, frequently stirring and beating them with the clothes stick. The object of this is to free them from any animal matter that may remain and which is the cause of the disagreeable odor so often observed in these articles. When done, throw in sufficient cold water to admit taking out the feathers with the hands, pick them out a few at a time, carefully removing any quills that remain. Many women have time and inclination to do little odd jobs that are an advantage, and to these it may be said that the ordinary feathers, by carefully taking out the larger quills, may be made almost as soft as down. With the thumb and fingers, strip the flues from the quills or cut them with the shears or a sharp knife. The former is much the quicker way, but the latter gives the softer material. Leave only the merest tip of the quill, and the soft fluffy pillows that will be the result are enough to console any woman for the time consumed.

Common chicken-feathers make the most exquisite cushions and pillows if treated in this way; but it is well to wash them thoroughly before using, and to rinse carefully. When ready for drying, put a sheet or large cloth into a tub, pour the feathers, rinsing-water and all into it, then slowly raise the cloth, allowing the water to drain through. When it is all removed, lay the feathers in some dry place out of the wind, or they will blow away. When nearly dry, beat them with a cane and shake and rub them thoroughly through the hands. In this way all of the flues are loosened and the material becomes as soft and downy as one could imagine. This is some trouble, but it ever again comes into feathers treated in this way, unless they are very carefully used. A few drops of oil of pine thrown into the rinsing-water will give the feathers a clean, fresh, delightful odor that can be acquired in no other way.—N. Y. Ledger.

DOMESTIC CONCERNS.

—Pigs' Feet: Clean, and boil until they are dropping to pieces. Remove from the liquor and put them into a little hot water; add salt, let boil, take them out on a flat dish and serve cold. Take one quart of the liquor or stock, which must not be salted, add a pint of water, flavor to taste, boil and pour into jelly molds. Serve with cream.—Housekeeper.

—Worth circulating is the remedy pronounced one of the most effective remedies known for sick headache. Place a pinch of salt on the tongue and allow it to dissolve slowly. In about ten minutes it may be followed by a drink of water. The actual moment when the cure begins is not so accurately stated but presumably very soon after the drink.—N. Y. Times.

—Pancakes: Two cups prepared flour, six eggs, one saltspoonful of salt, milk to make a thin batter. Beat the eggs light, add salt, two cups of milk, then the whites and flour alternately with milk, until the batter is of the right consistency. Run a teaspoonful of lard over the bottom of a hot frying-pan, pour in a large ladleful of batter and fry quickly. Roll the pancake up like a sheet of paper, lay upon a hot dish, put in more lard, and fry another pancake. Keep hot over boiling water, sending half a dozen to the table at a time.

—Parasip and Pork Stew: Cut up a pound of fresh, uncooked pork, or half the amount of salt pork. Put it on to boil in two quarts of cold water. After it has cooked an hour skim off the fat, scrape three or four good sized parsnips, cut in inch slices and add to the stew, also an onion sliced, and half an hour before dinner peel and cut up half a dozen potatoes, parboil a few minutes and add to the stew. When done take up meat and vegetables, thicken the gravy and season to taste, then pour over meat, etc.—Orange Judd Farmer.

—Lobster Salad: After boiling a hen lobster, let cool, crack the shell, take out the meat, and tear it apart in flakes; put on ice until wanted. Wash two heads of crisp lettuce, and shake dry. Put four tablespoonfuls of water in a saucepan with two of vinegar, one of sugar; let heat; add a beaten egg, a pinch of salt, and cayenne. Take from the fire. When cool mix in a tablespoonful of olive oil and the powdered yolks of four hard-boiled eggs. Pull the lettuce leaves apart, and mix with the lobster. Put in a salad-bowl, pour the dressing over, and garnish with lettuce leaves and tiny scarlet radishes.—Harper's Bazar.

—Apples Cooked in Butter: Pare and core six tart apples of equal size, and arrange them in a baking dish that is large enough to receive all the apples upon its flange. Sprinkle each apple with sugar in the hollow of each apple, and also a small quantity of any preferred spice if the apples are not finely flavored. After they have begun to bake, baste them with a scanty half-cupful of water in which a level tablespoonful of butter has been melted; and repeat the basting twice. The last basting will use up the buttered water, and the apples should be done shortly afterward. This preparation has a very dainty flavor, and it will present an attractive appearance if the fruit is not broken. It is a useful supper, for breakfast, or for a winter supper. Sugar may be dusted over the apples when taken from the oven; or if they are to be eaten cold, it may be added just before sending to the table.—Delineator.

CONCERNING EGGS.

Various Useful and Suggestive Notes on a Popular Dish.

A few drops of vinegar in the water for poached eggs makes them set properly and keeps the white from spreading.

A squeeze of lemon improves scrambled eggs. It should be added while they are cooking.

Asparagus tops are nice in an omelet. Toast spread with pate de foie gras and covered with scrambled eggs is a fine lunch dish.

Eggs fried without ham are best done in a little fine olive oil.

Cold fried eggs can be used for salad or revamped by dipping them in fritter batter and frying.

Fresh eggs taken from the shell and boiled in half a pint of sweet cream, seasoned with salt and pepper, is a delicious breakfast dish. They should only cook two minutes in the boiling cream.

Steamed tomatoes, grated cheese, and a couple of chopped up boiled sausages is a fine sauce to serve with fried eggs.—Chicago Times.

Salt Baths.

In the spring, when the system is apt to be run down by the confinement in the heated atmosphere of winter houses, and by a lack of the good, green vegetables which do much to tone up the system, it is well to call attention to the value of salt bathing. Almost all intelligent nurses now recommend the salt bath, especially for nervous patients, or for individuals whose systems have become enervated by lack of abundant outdoor exercise. Where a person is in individually good health and is accustomed to a cold bath, a cup of rock-salt may always be used to advantage, dissolved in the bathing water. But this saline bath must be rinsed off afterward with clear water, and the body then rubbed vigorously with heavy crash towels. But in the case of a little child or delicate person, authorities recommend the warm salt-water bath, taken at night just before retiring. The soothing effect of such a bath as this can hardly be appreciated by a person who has never tried it. A nervous little child will often fall into a refreshing slumber after such a bath as this, when every other expedient fails.—N. Y. Tribune.

Moire Silks.

The moire or watered silk is usually a gros-grain or faille in which a watered pattern has been produced by passing the silk over hot calenders. There are several different varieties of moire silks. Moire antique is a silk in which the watered wave extends from selvege to selvege. In moire Francaise, the watered effect appears in stripes, varying in size according to the pattern of the silk. Moire rayonne, introduced this season, has a very fine wave, which forms hair lines or rays in the breadth. In recent years, silk has been very often associated with satin or faille Francaise in stripes. A moire silk is never an especially durable goods. The heat necessary to produce the watered effect usually takes the body out of the silk.—Good Housekeeping.

AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

ROADS WITHOUT COST.

An Able Argument for the Employment of State Convicts.

The great objection which is blocking the efforts of the friends of good roads is their cost. If some benevolent individual would put his hand in his pocket and donate a system of good roads to the country, all would be lovely. But till then the average legislator finds it easier to do nothing. What we need is an object lesson that will convince doubters that every cent of money put into permanent road improvement will pay good interest. Mind you, only permanent improvement will do this; a little clay and gravel piled on the road-bed will be money wasted.

The expense of the greater part of these roads must ultimately be met by those receiving the benefit of them. The villages, townships and counties will each have their systems and their taxes. But for the present a few first-class public highways should be built.

What Makes a Woman. Not costly dress, not gaudy airs; Not jeweled hand, complexion fair; Not graceful form nor lofty tread; Not pearly teeth, nor sparkling eyes; Not voice that nightingales outvie; Not breath as sweet as eglantine; Not gaudy gems, nor fabrics fine; Not all the stores of fashion's market; Not yet the blandishments of art; Not one, nor all of these combined, Can make one woman true, refined, 'Tis not the casket that we prize, But that which in the casket lies; 'Tis not the diamond that we prize, Are naught unless the heart be right.—Wood's Household Advocate.

What Makes a Man. A truthful soul, a loving mind; A full of affection for his kind; A spirit firm, erect and true; That never bends the knee; That will not bend a feather's weight; Of slavery's chains for soul and true; That truly speaks of God within; That never makes a league with sin; That makes the fetters despise and hate; And loves the truth for its own sake; That worships God, and Him alone; Nay! loves his God as his throne; And trembles at no tyrant's nod; A soul that fears no one but God; And thus can smile at curse and ban.—This is the soul that makes a man.—Wood's Household Advocate.

The Lesser Ministries. A flower upon my threshold laid, I know not who loves its tribute paid, I only know that it has made true; Life's pathway smooth, life's borders green. God bless the gracious hands that e'er Such tender ministries essay. Dear hands that help the pilgrim bear His load of weakness and care. More bravely up the toilsome way.

Oh, what a little thing can turn A heavy heart from sighs to song! A heart that is so full of love; A word can cause the soul to burn. With glow of Heaven all night long!

It needs not that love's gift be great— Some splendid jewel of the soil For which a king might supplicate. 'Tis but the love that makes true, 'Tis little more than the love of life.

Deafness Cannot be Cured by local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by restoring the inflamed mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed, the system is so affected that perfect hearing is impossible. It is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

A SHOEMAKER has a card in his window reading: "Any respectable man, woman or child can have a fit shoe made here."—Banakok Times.

CHECK Colds and Bronchitis with Hale's Honeysuckle Drops in one minute. Hale's Honeysuckle Drops Cure in one minute.

DAUBERT, the artist, whose studio is on the top story, says it isn't a beautiful place on account of the climb-atlantic changes.—Exchange.

The progress of science in medicine has produced nothing better for human ills than the celebrated Beecham's Pills.

The reason it is no joke to step on a tack in the dark is because it is impossible to see the point.

Send Peddlers and some unscrupulous grocers will tell you "this is as good as" or "the same as Pearline." IT'S FALSE—Pearline is never peddled, and if your grocer sends you something in place of Pearline, honest—send it back. JAMES PYLE, New York.

It is now a "Nontrum," though at first it was compounded after a prescription by a regular physician, with no idea that it would ever get on the market as a proprietary medicine. But after compounding that prescription over a thousand times in one year, we named it "Piso's Cure for Consumption," and began advertising it in a small way. A medicine known all over the world is the result.

Why is it not just as good as though costing fifty cents to a dollar for a prescription and an equal sum to have it put up as a drug store?

THE POT INSULTED THE KETTLE BECAUSE THE COOK HAD NOT USED SAPOLIO.

GOOD COOKING DEMANDS CLEANLINESS. SAPOLIO SHOULD BE USED IN EVERY KITCHEN.

TOWER'S FISH BRAND SLICKER.

The Best Waterproof Coat in the World!

WE WANT AT ONCE.

Reliable men for the sale of the best of the world's most famous and most successful waterproofing material.

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